

The Revolutionary Crisis of 1848–1851

1848			
February 22–24	Revolution in Paris forces the abdication of Louis Philippe	November 15	Papal minister Rossi is assassinated in Rome
February 26	National workshops established in Paris	November 16	Revolution in Rome
March 3	Kossuth attacks the Habsburg domination of Hungary	November 25	Pope Pius IX flees Rome
March 13	Revolution in Vienna	December 2	Habsburg Emperor Ferdinand abdicates and Francis Joseph becomes emperor
March 15	The Habsburg emperor accepts the Hungarian March Revolution	December 10	Louis Napoleon is elected president of the Second French Republic
March 18	Frederick William IV of Prussia promises a constitution; Revolution in Milan	1849	
March 19	Frederick William IV is forced to salute the corpses of slain revolutionaries in Berlin	January 5	General Windischgraetz occupies Budapest
March 22	Piedmont declares war on Austria	February 2	The Roman Republic is proclaimed
April 23	Election of the French National Assembly	March 12	War is resumed between Piedmont and Austria
May 15	Worker protests in Paris lead the National Assembly to close the national workshops	March 23	Piedmont is defeated, and Charles Albert abdicates the crown of Piedmont in favor of Victor Emmanuel II
May 17	Habsburg emperor Ferdinand flees from Vienna to Innsbruck	March 27	The Frankfurt Parliament completes a constitution for Germany
May 18	The Frankfurt Assembly gathers to prepare a German constitution	March 28	The Frankfurt Parliament elects Frederick William IV of Prussia to be emperor of Germany
June 2	Pan-Slavic Congress gathers in Prague	April 21	Frederick William IV of Prussia rejects the crown offered by the Frankfurt Parliament
June 17	A Czech revolution in Prague is suppressed	June 18	The remaining members of the Frankfurt Parliament are dispersed by troops
June 23–26	A workers' insurrection in Paris is suppressed by the troops of the National Assembly	July 3	Collapse of the Roman Republic after invasion by French troops
July 24	Austria defeats Piedmont	August 9–13	The Hungarian forces are defeated by Austria, aided by Russian troops
September 17	General Jellachich invades Hungary	1851	
October 31	Vienna falls to the bombardment of General Windischgraetz	December 2	Coup d'état of Louis Napoleon

1849, the assembly was dissolved, and the monarch proclaimed his own constitution. One of its key elements was a system of three-class voting. All adult males were allowed to vote. They voted, however, according to three classes arranged by ability to pay taxes. Thus, the largest taxpayers, who constituted only about 5 percent of the population, elected one-third of the Prussian Parliament. This system prevailed in Prussia until 1918. In the finally revised Prussian constitution

of 1850, the ministry was responsible to the king alone. Moreover, the Prussian army and officer corps swore loyalty directly to the monarch.

THE FRANKFURT PARLIAMENT While Prussia was moving from revolution to reaction, other events were unfolding in Germany as a whole. On May 18, 1848, representatives from all the German states gathered in Saint Paul's Church in Frankfurt to revise the organization of the German Confederation. The